

Sept. 14, 1996

DEAR MR. McVEIGH:

I am writing to appraise you of a development and to offer my services if you have any use for them.

The development concerns the militia movement. There's a militiaman named Mike Vanderbough in Alabama who a couple of months ago subscribed to [redacted] theory that John Doe 2 is [redacted] and that a fellow named [redacted] is a John Doe 3.

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He has now gathered the endorsement of some 100 militias and commanders to a statement called, "The Alabama Declaration." What the declaration says is that political acts of violence are traceable to racist groups, not militias. In regards to the OKC bombing, it says, "That the probable bombers, assisted by Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, were a mixed bag of neo-Nazis and self-described 'Christian identity' racists and anti-Semites from Elohim City, Oklahoma, who hope to ignite a civil war that will destroy the American Republic thus giving way to a Nazi American Reich..."

[redacted] has replied to this statement, citing his differences with the signers.

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I think that we can assume that their exchanges will soon be aired in the press.

What the statement and the scenario mean is that what I call the Constitutionalist Movement has now gone from a passive denial of any association with the OKC bombing ("ah, the government did it") to an actively accusatory stance--naming you and specifying motives to you.

I do not know your defense strategy, and therefore do not know if you will consider it appropriate to respond to the political, as opposed to the criminal, imputations being made. I also don't know how you'd respond. One of the questions that I had hoped to answer in my book was, "McVeigh: Neo-Nazi or Constitutionalist?" If there is any possibility that because of the "Alabama Declaration" I might be able to presently resolve that question--from whatever source, in whatever way--I'd like to: even on the condition that I speak with the rest of the press about whatever I might learn.

If you are interested in obtaining full copies of the Declaration [redacted] exchange, let me know and I'll send a set.

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Yours,

[redacted]

cc: [redacted]

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